GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5157
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2007
AGRICULTURAL CREDIT
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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details -of agricultural credit disbursed by 27 commercial banks in the country for the last three years;

(b) whether Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry has given its findings thereon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

a) : Details of agricultural loans disbursed by 27 Public Sector Commercial Banks during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 arc as under :

Year	Disbursement (in Rs. crore)
2003-04	42210.77
2004-05	65217.72
2005-06	94277.79

(b) & (c) : The Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry conducted, a study covering 21 states of the country and suggested that following measures could be undertaken to enhance credit flow to agriculture :

Scaling up the efforts to enhance coverage of institutional credit

Commercial banks :o make an effort to bring into their fold, on average, at least 100 new farmers at each rural and semi-rural branch during the current year.

Each rural and semi-rural branch of commercial banks, on an average, to take up at least two to three new investment projects.

In every district, on an average, all commercial banks put together to finance 10 agro-clinics during the current year.

The Government has already taken a number of steps to enhance credit flow to agriculture. On 18th June 2004, the Government announced a package to double the flow of agriculture credit within three years, which has been achieved in two years itself. The credit flow to agriculture during 2005-06 is Rs. 1,80,486 crore as against Rs.86,931 crore during 2003-04. A total of around 64.78 lakh, new farmers have been financed by the Public and Piivate Sector Commercial Banks and RRBs (upto February, 2007).